

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 INR-05 L-01 PM-03 SP-02

PA-01 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 IO-03

CIAE-00 ACDA-10 H-01 EB-03 CU-02 /068 W

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R 200418Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3561

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 6841

LIMDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR XC

SUBJ: THE SOVIETS AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

REF: MOSCOW 6800

1. EMBASSY HAS READ WITH GREAT INTEREST EMBASSY MOSCOW'S IMPRESSIVE APPRAISAL OF SOVIET ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CURRENT EVOLUTIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE FIND OURSELVES IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH ITS GENERAL THRUST AND WITH ITS CONCLUSIONS.

2. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO ENTER SMALL CAUTIONARY NOTE

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CONCERNING ASSUMPTION IN PARAGRAPH 16 THAT THERE IS

SIGNIFICANT FILIPINO "ANTIPATHY" TOWARDS CHINA. THE PHILIPPINES STANDS IN GREAT AWE OF CHINA AND ESSENTIALLY FEARS THE PROSPECT OF FUTURE CHINESE HEGEMONY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS A FAR EASIER CULTURAL AND INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINESE AND FILIPINOS THAN BETWEEN CHINESE AND THE OTHER PROTO-MALAY RACES SUCH AS MALAYSIANS AND INDONESIANS, WHOSE ANTIPATHY IS COMPOUNDED BY THEIR ISLAMIC ACCULTURATION.

3. IN SHORT, THERE IS NO UNBRIDGEABLE GAP OF ANTIPATHY BETWEEN FILIPINOS AND CHINESE. IN FACT, IT WOULD BE OUR ASSUMPTION, BASED ON VERY LIMITED EXPOSURE, THAT CHINESE WILL RATE WELL ABOVE THE SOVIETS ON ANY PHILIPPINE SUMPATHY SCALE. ANY ATTEMPT, THEREFORE, ON THE PART OF THE SOVIETS TO PLAY OFF FILIPINOS AGAINST CHINESE WOULD BE LIKELY TO BACKFIRE IN THE SOVIETS' FACES.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA06841
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750176-0671
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750536/aaaabgev.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 6800
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE SOVIETS AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006